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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,533	12/29/2000	Stephen M. Coutts	252312005704	1380

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EXAMINER

LUKTON, DAVID

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1653	13

DATE MAILED: 04/10/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/752,533	Applicant(s) Coutts
	Examiner David Lukton	Art Unit 1653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE one MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on Mar 12, 2002

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1 and 22-45 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims 1 and 22-45 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 20) Other: _____

Pursuant to preliminary amendment, claims 2-21 have been cancelled, and claims 22-45 added. Claims 1 and 22-45 are pending.

*

A restriction is imposed, as set forth below. First, however, the following subgenera are defined:

G1: within this subgenus, the valency platform molecule is limited to a compound of formula 1 (page 4, specification);

G2: within this subgenus, the valency platform molecule is limited to a compound of formula 2 (page 4, specification);

G3: within this subgenus, the valency platform molecule is limited to a compound of formula 6 (page 12, specification);

G4: within this subgenus, the valency platform molecule is limited to a compound of formula 7 (page 12, specification);

G5: within this subgenus, the valency platform molecule can be whatever the claims permit, including G1, provided that G2, G3 and G4 are excluded;

G6: within this subgenus, the valency platform molecule can be whatever the claims permit, including G2, provided that G1, G3 and G4 are excluded;

G7: within this subgenus, the valency platform molecule can be whatever the claims permit, including G3, provided that G1, G2 and G4 are excluded;

G8: within this subgenus, the valency platform molecule can be whatever the claims permit, including G4, provided that G1, G2 and G3 are excluded.

*

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. §121:

1. Claim 1, drawn to a conjugate.
2. Claims 22-43, wherein at least one of the valency platform molecules within the mixture falls within the scope of G5.
3. Claims 22-43, wherein at least one of the valency platform molecules within the mixture falls within the scope of G6.
4. Claims 22-43, wherein at least one of the valency platform molecules within the mixture falls within the scope of G7.
5. Claims 22-43, wherein at least one of the valency platform molecules within the mixture falls within the scope of G8.
6. Claims 44-45, drawn to a method of making a composition.

Inventions 6 and 2-5 are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP 806.05(f)). Nevertheless, in the event that one of Groups 2-5 is elected, and claims therein found allowable, the corresponding method-of-making claims will be rejoined for further examination [*In re Ochiai* (37 USPQ2d 1127)].

Applicant is advised that for the response to this requirement to be complete, an election of the invention to be examined must be indicated, even if the requirement is traversed (37 C.F.R. 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently filed petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(h).

In addition to the foregoing, applicants are required under 35 U.S.C. §121 to elect a disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. A specie is a fully defined molecule, i.e., the valency platform is fully defined and the “biologically active molecules” are defined to the extent that the specification permits.

Applicant is advised that a response to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a generic claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentable distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 of the other invention.

*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Lukton. Phone: (703) 308-3213.

An inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.



DAVID LUKTON
PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 1600